

NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY ACT (NEPA) PLANNING SUMMARY

Savannah River Operations Office (SR)

January 2000

Summary

SR has prepared this NEPA Planning Summary in accordance with DOE Order 451.1A. SR is currently preparing four environmental assessments (EA) and anticipates preparation of two or more additional EAs over the next 12 months. SR is in the process of preparing three environmental impact statements (EIS) and does not anticipate initiating any additional EISs in the next 24 months. Cost information is the most current available (not a projected final cost), generally through December 1999. Dates indicated as projected are the scheduled date for completion of the document; all SR EISs and EAs are on the schedule established by the sponsoring organization. Similarly all SR EISs and EAs are running under the established budgets, some substantially so. Cost information given represents SR costs to support preparation of the NEPA document being prepared by another office; in each case the preparing office has provided funds to SR.

Environmental Assessments

1. EAs in Preparation

Revised FONSI for the EA for the Centralization and Upgrading of the Sanitary Wastewater System at Savannah River Site (SRS) DOE/EA-0878

In 1993, an EA was prepared for this activity. Based on the analyses in that EA, DOE issued a FONSI in September of that year. In a recent effort to reduce the cost of onsite collection and treatment of sanitary wastewaters bearing trace amounts of radionuclides, DOE is considering a modification in the original scope of the proposed action presented in that EA. The revision would allow SRS to discharge small quantities of radionuclides into site sanitary sewerage.

Schedule	Notification	12/99	Cost: \$1,400 (12/99)
	Pre-approval EA	Not Applicable (NA)	
	Final EA	NA	
	FONSI or NOI	02/00 (projected)	

EA for the Offsite Transportation of Certain Low-Level and Mixed Radioactive Waste from SRS for Treatment and Disposal at Commercial Facilities DOE/EA-1308

The EA will analyze the potential environmental consequences associated with shipping low-level waste and mixed low-level waste to treatment facilities in Texas and/or

Tennessee and subsequently to Envirocare of Utah for disposal. This EA is on hold pending other decisions.

Schedule	Notification	6/99	Cost: \$7,435 (12/99)
	Pre-approval EA	mid 00 (projected)	
	Final EA	9/00 (projected)	
	FONSI or NOI	9/00 (projected)	

EA for the Construction and Operation of the Low Enriched Uranium (LEU) Loading Station and Modification to the Existing Highly Enriched Uranium Blending Facilities at SRS DOE/EA-1322

The EA will analyze the potential environmental consequences associated with construction and operation of a LEU loading station and with modifications to existing facilities at SRS. The proposed action would support delivery of LEU (converted from off-specification highly enriched uranium) to the Tennessee Valley Authority.

Schedule	Notification	9/99	Cost: \$8,888 (12/99)
	Pre-approval EA	Schedule uncertain.	
	Final EA	Schedule uncertain.	
	FONSI or NOI	Schedule uncertain.	

EA to Evaluate an Alternate Approach for the Defense Waste Processing Facility (DWPF) Glass Waste Canister Storage Facility at SRS DOE/EA-1327

The EA will analyze the potential environmental consequences associated with building and operating an onsite aboveground concrete storage pad for casks containing the DWPF canisters. The storage casks would be made using the SRS's inventory of depleted uranium trioxide powder. The action would significantly reduce the onsite inventory of depleted uranium trioxide powder.

Schedule	Notification	11/99	Cost: \$0 (12/99)
	Pre-approval EA	2/00 (projected)	
	Final EA	6/00 (projected)	
	FONSI or NOI	6/00 (projected)	

2. EAs Expected to be Required in the Next 12 Months

Based on previous experience and existing potential actions, SR expects to initiate two or more EAs during the next 12 months. Potential actions involving construction and operation of a Consolidated Plutonium Storage Project and the Salt Disposition Pilot Facility may require preparation of EAs, if decisions are made to proceed with these projects. SR expects several more proposals requiring EAs to be initiated during the coming year, but no other specific projects are known at this time.

Environmental Impact Statements

1. EISs in Preparation

SRS Spent Nuclear Fuel Management EIS DOE/EIS-0279

The proposed action is to manage aluminum-based foreign research reactor and domestic receipts, and spent nuclear fuel currently stored at SRS totaling 68 metric tons through 2014.

Schedule:

NOI	12/96	Cost: WSRC	\$346,142
Draft EIS	12/98	TSSC	824,611
Final EIS	2/00 (projected)	Total (12/99)	\$1,170,753
Record of Decision (ROD)	3/00 (projected)		

SRS High-Level Waste Tank Closure EIS DOE/EIS-0303

The proposed action is to close the SRS high-level waste tanks and associated equipment in accordance with the Industrial Wastewater Closure Plan for F- and H-Area High Level Waste Tank Systems approved by the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control.

Schedule:	NOI	12/98	Cost: WSRC	\$124,927
	Draft EIS	2/00 (projected)	TSSC	370,135
	Final EIS	5/00 (projected)	Total (12/99)	\$495,062
	ROD	6/00 (projected)		

SRS Salt Disposition Alternatives Supplemental EIS DOE/SEIS-0082-S2

The proposed action is to replace the In-Tank Precipitation technology with an alternative technology for removal of radionuclides from the salt fraction of the high-level waste. This SEIS is in the second supplement to DOE/EIS-0082, *Defense Waste Processing Facility, Savannah River Plant, Aiken SC*. This SEIS is on hold, pending future decisions.

Schedule:	NOI	2/99	Cost: WSRC	\$331,168
	Draft EIS	Schedule uncertain.	TSSC	400,121
	Final EIS	Schedule uncertain.	Total (12/99)	\$731,289
	ROD	Schedule uncertain.		

2. EISs expected to be Initiated in the Next 24 Months

No EISs are anticipated within the next 24 months.

3. Programmatic or Other EISs Supported by SR

A. In Preparation

Waste Management Programmatic EIS DOE/EIS-0200

The proposed action is to select strategies for management of the Department's radioactive and hazardous waste. RODs for low-level waste and low-level mixed waste are expected in early 2000. A supplement analysis is being prepared to determine the need for a supplemental EIS in light of changes in the waste inventories described in the Final EIS.

Schedule	NOI	10/90	Cost	WSRC	\$22,000 (12/99)
	Draft EIS	9/95			
	Final EIS	5/97			
	RODs				
	TRU Waste	1/98			
	Haz. Waste	8/98			
	HLW	8/99			
	LLW/LLMW	2/00 (projected)			

Geologic Repository for the Disposal of Spent Nuclear Fuel and High-Level Waste at Yucca Mountain DOE/EIS-0250

The proposed action is to construct and operate a geologic repository for the disposal of spent nuclear fuel and high-level waste at Yucca Mountain, Nevada. SRS expects to respond to data calls, including the No-Action Alternative data call, requiring information on impacts of indefinite storage of HLW at SRS.

Schedule	NOI	8/95	SRS cost	\$0
	Draft EIS	8/99		
	Final EIS	8/00 (projected)		
	ROD	9/00 (projected)		

B. Expected to be Initiated in the Next 24 Months

SR would support preparation of a U-233 Disposition EIS, if the Department elects to prepare an EIS.

SR would support preparation of a Supplemental Stockpile Stewardship and Management EIS, addressing establishment of a large-scale pit manufacturing capacity, if the Department decides to pursue such a contingency.

4. NEPA/Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) Integration Activities

In accordance with DOE Order 451.1A and SRS procedures, SR intends to incorporate NEPA values in the CERCLA reviews of SRS closure actions. At this time SR has one action in process, the Remediation of the TNX-Area Operable Unit, which requires preparation of a NEPA Values Impact Assessment for incorporation in the CERCLA documentation. SR anticipates two actions: R-Reactor Seepage Basin Remediation Project, and D-Area Expanded Operable Unit, which will also require preparation of NEPA Values Impact Assessments.

A similar action, Final Action on the Mixed Waste Management Facility, involving NEPA/Resource Conservation Recovery Act (RCRA) may also require preparation of a NEPA Values Impact Assessment for incorporation in the RCRA documentation.